

APR 1 6 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

N RE APPLICATION OF

ATTY DKT NO.: 0487.00007

EDWARD GREEN ET AL.

ATTN: BOX MISSING PARTS

SERIAL NO: 09/754,083

FILED: JANUARY 5, 2001

FOR: ETHANOL PRODUCTION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 3-5, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 17 as follows.

- 3. A Gram positive bacterium according to claim 1 wherein the bacterium is a thermophile
- 4. A Gram-positive bacterium according to claim 2 wherein the Bacillus is selected from B. stearothermophilus; B. calvodex; B. caldotenax, B. thermoglucosidasius, B. coagulans, B. licheniformis, B. thermodenitrificans, and B. caldolyticus.
- 5. A Gram-positive bacterium according to claim 1 wherein the gene encoding lactate dehydrogenase expression has been inactivated

7. A Gram-positive bacterium according to claim 1 in which the heterologous gene is from *Zymomonas sp* or from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

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